

Executive Department State of Idaho

The Office of the Governor **Proclamation**

State Capitol Boise

WHEREAS, the State of Idaho is committed to competing in the global economy, our citizens must recognize the challenges ahead and provide their children with the education and skills that will enable them to compete successfully; and

WHEREAS, the constantly rising costs of higher education have out-paced inflation and growth in family income, posing a serious threat to the ability of our citizens to ensure their children's access to post-secondary education; and

WHEREAS, the amount of student loan debt continues to rise, leaving college graduates with the everincreasing burden of paying for their college education long after they have completed their education; and

WHEREAS, it is in the State's interest that access to post-secondary education for our children be maintained and that encouraging parents to save for their children's education promotes that public purpose; and

WHEREAS, the Idaho State Board of Education has set a goal of having 60 percent of 25-34 year-old residents earn a post-secondary degree or certificate by 2020; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of Idaho's employers to ensure a well-educated workforce; and

WHEREAS, the State of Idaho provides a college savings plan as a Section 529 Qualified State Tuition and Savings Plans (QSTP), known as IDeal – Idaho College Savings Program;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim the month of September 2012 to be

2012 COLLEGE SAVINGS MONTH

in Idaho.

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C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER GOVERNOR

the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred twenty-third.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this 1st day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand and twelve and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred thirty-seventh and of

BEN YSURSA SECRETARY OF STATE